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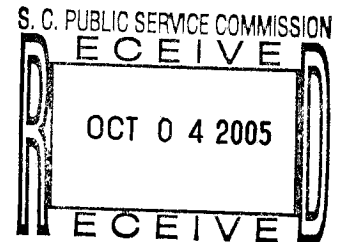


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DAN E. ARNETT  
CHIEF OF STAFF

October 3, 2005

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni  
Chief Clerk/Administrator  
**Public Service Commission of South Carolina**  
P. O. Drawer 11649  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211



RE: Docket No. 2005-246-C – Application of Sprint Nextel Corporation for Approval of Transfer of Control

Dear Mr. Terreni:

On August 17, 2005, Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint”) filed with the Commission its Application for the transfer of control of United Telephone Company of the Carolinas, Sprint Long Distance, Inc. and Sprint Payphone Services, Inc. from Sprint to LTD Holding Company (“Application”). In its Application, Sprint discusses in detail its plans to effectively separate its incumbent local exchange entity, along with certain long distance and payphone affiliates, into an independent, stand-alone operation. Subsequent to the filing of the Application, Sprint requested and was granted an Allowable Ex Parte Briefing at the Commission’s offices in Columbia on September 1, 2005, pursuant to and in accordance with the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-260. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) has reviewed Sprint’s Application and was in attendance at the September 1 briefing, and as a result, ORS believes that approval of Sprint’s application is in the public interest.

Sprint filed its Application pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-310, which requires Commission approval for certain telephone utility transactions. ORS finds that Sprint has demonstrated that the new, stand-alone incumbent local telephone operation and related affiliates will possess the necessary technical, financial and managerial expertise to provide telecommunications services to existing and new customers in South Carolina. The proposed separation will enable the new, stand-alone incumbent local exchange entity to more effectively focus on its local markets, thus facilitating the provision of a full range of quality telecommunications services to residential and business consumers in South Carolina. For these reasons, ORS finds that Sprint’s request is in the public interest and recommends that the Commission approve it.

(Continued....)

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni

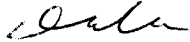
October 3, 2005

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Enclosed herein are the original and ten (10) copies of this letter. Thank you for your consideration, and please call me if you should have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



C. Dukes Scott  
Executive Director

CDS/sh  
Enclosure

cc: Daniel Waggoner, Esquire  
Scott Elliott, Esquire  
William R.L. Atkinson, Esquire